

Greetings

The NZCEO Board has spent some time during 2016 aligning our work and outputs with the key tasks of our mission. While much of our role will continue to involve engagement with Government and ministries there will be more emphasis on supporting relationships with NCRS and CEC (Catholic Enquiry Centre) as a way of supporting our mission in schools.

The office has also moved to develop a video conferencing facility so that we can provide more webinars and forums for leaders and future leaders of Catholic schools as a way of building leadership capacity and faith formation among staff.

This year promises to be another significant year for everyone involved in Catholic schooling. The Education (Update) Amendment Act signals some change in the language of Integration but the intent and operation should continue as before. Submissions have been made to the Select Committee about the Bill and we will work with Government to ensure that our agreement is not infringed.

Most importantly the office wants to engage more with schools and Proprietors. A new piece of work is being undertaken by Project Manager and Policy Analyst Siobhan Dilly to update and enhance our website and communications. Our intention is to make the website more user friendly and responsive to your needs and to ensure that our communications are timely and relevant to your work. I hope you will respond to requests for information from Siobhan so that we can begin 2018 with a much more responsive and engaging web presence and linked communication strategies.

Best wishes for your work during the year.

“True education enables us to love life and opens us to the fullness of life.”

Pope Francis

Greetings

Best wishes for the year ahead.

He aha te taonga, koha nui rānei kaho atu tātou ki te tangata? He akoranga, he akoranga, he akoranga.

Changes to Guidelines for the Preference of Enrolment

At the end of 2016 the NZCBC made a change to preference of enrolment criterion 5.4. This was circulated, and then a further update was provided in February 2017 to Bishops/diocesan administrators. Schools and parishes should already have copies, but if necessary it can be sourced from the diocesan office. The material on the NZCEO website will be updated shortly.

Congratulations to Principals New to Leadership in a Catholic School

Saira Boyle, St Mary's School, Ellerslie

Ursula Hall, St Joseph's Catholic School, Pukekohe

Christine MacDonald, St Pius X School, Titahi Bay

Chris Gladstone, St Joseph's School, Nelson

Patrick Dowling, St Mary's School, Blenheim

Bernadette Ewer, St Joseph's School, Pleasant Point

Tracy Gundesen, St Frances de Sales School, Island Bay

Caroline Bush, St Joseph's School, Orakei, Auckland

Pattie Ree, Our Lady of the Snows School, Methven

New Catholic School opens in Auckland

Congratulations to the Auckland Diocese, the establishment board, and to the principal, Peta Lindstrom, staff, students and families of our newest school. Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School, Takanini, Auckland opened for term 1, 2017 with a roll of 56. Staff expect to have at least 90 children by the end of the year. The school has a very multi-cultural intake. It will grow to a maximum roll of 250.

A New Name and Buildings for St Patrick's School, Paraparaumu

Our Lady of Kāpiti School, formerly St Patrick's School, opened on 7th February in brand new classrooms on a brand new site. The official opening and blessing will be carried out by Cardinal John Dew on 17 March.

NZ Youth Delegates to Roman Synod Announced

Pope Francis has convoked the 15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops for October 2018 with the topic: Young People, the Faith and Vocational Discernment. The NZCBC has nominated two delegates to attend a preparatory meeting in Rome at the start of April 2016. We congratulate Isabella McCafferty, Wellington, and Teresa McNamara, Auckland, on being chosen to represent New Zealand.

Congratulations

- Holy Family School, Porirua featured in the NZ Gazette of 5 Dec 2016 with a two page article about the school's new Family So'otaga programme which will enhance parent/school relationships.
- Dr Kevin Shore, principal of Cullinane College, Whanganui, has had a research paper on 'The characteristics and career trajectories of assistant /deputy principals in New Zealand secondary schools' published in the Journal of Educational Leadership, Policy and Practice (vol 31 (2) 2016).

- Holy Cross School, Miramar, had an article on the English language programme 'Think, Talk and Create' featured on the front page of the Wellingtonian, December 8, 2016 issue. The school also featured in the Ministry of Education ESOL Newsletter in an article called "Spotlight on Schools" which talks about the wonderful and highly effective oral language programme that is run at Holy Cross School.
- Jan de Koning, Holy Cross Catholic School, Papatoetoe worked with her class trialling the Ministry of Education's new dual language reading books for new entrants (available in Samoan, Tongan, Cook Island Māori, Niuean and Tokalauan.) Sets of books can be ordered from "Down the Back of the Chair", at no cost. Support materials are also available.

Apology for Misprint

In the November 2016 issue of Good News & the News, front page article titled Te Reo Development in Cambridge, Brigid Marr was incorrectly named as principal of St Peter's Catholic School, Cambridge. We apologise for any confusion around this and would like to note that the principal is Debra White.

There is a Time For...

This book follows the Ecclesiasticus message that there is a season for everything (3:1-9) and offers original prayers and reflections on family life situations by New Zealanders, including children from our schools. It is compiled and edited by Fr James Lyons and has many photographs throughout of the landscapes and people of New Zealand. To purchase your copy for \$25.00 phone 04 496 1700 or email cathedral.parish@wn.catholic.org.nz

A Reminder of Publications Available from NZCEO

- Being a Staff Member in a New Zealand Catholic School
- Virtues and Values in New Zealand Catholic Schools
- New Zealand Catholic Schools Today
- The Declaration of NZ Catholic Schools Proprietors – Characteristics of an Authentic Catholic School
- NZ Catholic School Teacher Certification
- Choose a Career as a Catholic School Teacher
- New Zealand Catholic Schools Heritage Brochure
- New Zealand Catholic Schools Location Guide Poster
- Code of Ethics for Staff and Boards of Trustees of New Zealand Catholic Schools
- 2020 Beacon Plan Goals

Websites to Visit

www.faithjourney.co.nz A new site set up by NCRS which offers a collection of resources for families to use in a home setting.

www.netsafe.org.nz Useful guidelines and information on internet safety.

www.nathaniel.org.nz Great resources.

"The mission of schools is to develop a sense of Truth, of what is good and beautiful... together, these elements enable us to grow and help us to love life, even when we are not well, even in the midst of many problems."

Pope Francis

Useful Ideas for Teaching Science in a Catholic School

- Include aspects of the wonder of creation, the 'gift' of our world, the need for appropriate moral awareness and well developed conscience.
- Look into the concept of a consistent ethic of life. The Nathaniel Centre has great material on this sort of issue. www.nathaniel.org.nz
- Another great website for getting around the science/religion debate is www.magiscenter.com/high-school/
- The Catholic Church does not have a problem with the theory of evolution, it doesn't state or prove that God does not create.
- Laudato Si, the Pope's letter on care of our common home http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Journey to the Holy Land

In September and October of this year, Pat McCarthy will lead a 20 day 'Journey to the Holy Land' pilgrimage to Jordan, Israel and Palestine. The Chaplain will be Bishop Steve Lowe of Hamilton. To find out more phone Pat at 09 480 4463; or email patsuzie@slingshot.co.nz or see www.seetheholyland.net.



KONICA MINOLTA

Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia ū!

Paul Ferris, C.E.O.

Susan Apáthy, Deputy C.E.O.

Heather Richardson, Financial Controller

Siobhan Dilly, Project Manager and Policy Analyst

Jane O'Connell Adele Pedreschi Debbie Vreeburg

Lighting New Fires is published by the New Zealand Catholic Education Office, PO Box 12307, Wellington. Phone: 04 496 1739
Email: nzceooffice@nzceo.org.nz Website: www.nzceo.org.nz